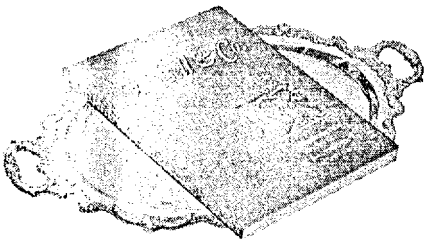
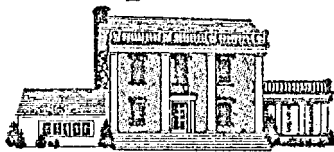


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Our batik artist, MARGARET CORNELIUS, is making her second appearance on the JOURNAL's cover. For more information on Miss Cornelius and batiks, see Washington Letter.

W. WENDELL BLANCKE who is responsible for that "rhymed and scanning history of diplomatic twistery" beginning on page 25, is now retiring after a career which included service as Consul in Hanoi during "the French war," DCM in Vientiane and Ambassador to the Congo (Brazzaville). Before he entered the Service he spent nine years as art director of the Buenos Aires branch of N. W. Ayer and Son, and, before that, the best part of a year in Paris, dabbling in the study of art.

DONALD Q. COSTER of AID joined the American Field Service in 1939, after nine years in banking and advertising in Montreal. A partial account of his experiences in France appears in "Completing the Escape," page 22. Mr. Coster then served with the Navy, the Air Force and the OSS during the war. He worked in advertising, in sales and with the CIA before joining AID as Deputy Director, Mission to Vietnam in 1959. Mrs. Coster, the former Ruth Renwick, has contributed two covers to the JOURNAL.

ARTHUR LARSON has been director of the Rule of Law Research Center at Duke University since 1958. Mr. Larson has also served the government as, variously, Undersecretary of Labor, Director of USIA and Special Assistant to President Eisenhower. "International Relations: Fancies vs. Facts" is from a talk given at the Houston conference on the Requirements of Peace, sponsored by the local chapters of the World Affairs Council and the United Nations Association, along with the University of Houston.

JAMES E. WEBB, Director of NASA, spoke before the luncheon meeting of the American Foreign Service Association on February 23. Excerpts from his speech appear on page 44. Mr. Webb has served the government in the Marine Corps, as Director of the Budget and as Undersecretary of State. He is also President of the American Society for Public Administration.

LIVINGSTON HARTLEY continues with Part II of "Towards an Atlantic Alliance" on page 20 of this issue. Mr. Hartley is the Associate Director of Declaration of Atlantic Unity and is active in the Atlantic Council of the United States. Part I appeared in May, 1966.

Cleaning Up After A. E. Housman

*Messiest of trees, the maple now
 Is hung with seeds along the bough
 And drops them all with fecund pride
 On flagstone, lawn, and far, and wide.*

*Now on our four years' Stateside run
 Two have been forever done.
 And take those two years out of four
 By old or new math, leaves two more.*

*And since to push the constant broom
 Two years is plenty round the home
 I hope for our next post we go
 Some place where maples do not grow.*

—MARY TILSITT

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